

**Figure 10-15 Proportional Weir Dimensions**

#### 10.8.4 Discharge Pipes

Discharge pipes are often used as outlet structures for detention facilities. The design of these pipes can be for either single or multistage discharges. A single stage discharge system would consist of a single culvert entrance system and would not be designed to carry emergency flows. A multistage inlet would involve the placement of a control structure at the inlet end of the pipe. The inlet structure would be designed in such a way that the design discharge would pass through a weir or orifice in the lower levels of the structure and the emergency flows would pass over the top of the structure. The pipe would need to be designed to carry the full range of flows from a drainage area including the emergency flows.

For single stage systems, the facility would be designed as if it were a simple culvert. Appropriate design procedures are outlined in Chapter 8, Culverts. For multistage control structures, the inlet control structure would be designed considering both the design flow and the emergency flows. A stage-discharge curve would be developed for the full range of flows that the structure would experience. The design flows will typically be orifice flow through whatever shape the designer has chosen while the higher flows will typically be weir flow over the top of the control structure. Orifices can be designed using the equations in section 10.8.2 and weirs can be designed using the equations in section 10.8.3. The pipe must be designed to carry all flows considered in the design of the control structure.

In designing a multistage structure, the designer would first develop peak discharges that must be passed through the facility. The second step would be to select a pipe that will pass the peak flow within the allowable headwater and develop a performance curve for the pipe. Thirdly, the designer would develop a stage-discharge curve for the inlet control structure, recognizing that the headwater for the discharge pipe will be the tailwater that needs to be considered in designing the inlet structure. And lastly, the designer would use the stage-discharge curve in the basin routing procedure.

**Example 10-7**

**Given:** A corrugated steel discharge pipe as shown in Figure 10-13 with the following characteristics:

maximum head on pipe = 0.75 m (2.3 ft) (conservative value of 0.05 m less than the riser height)  
 inlet invert = 10.0 m (32.8 ft)  
 length (L) = 50 m (164 ft)  
 slope = 0.04 m/m (ft/ft)  
 roughness = 0.024  
 square edge entrance ( $K_e = 0.5$ )  
 discharge pipe outfall is free (not submerged)  
 Runoff characteristics as given

**Find:** The size pipe needed to carry the maximum allowable flow rate from the detention basin.

**Solution:** The maximum predeveloped discharge from the watershed is  $0.55 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$  ( $19.4 \text{ ft}^3/\text{s}$ ). Since the discharge pipe can function under inlet or outlet control, the pipe size will be evaluated for both conditions. The larger pipe size will be selected for the final design.

Using chart 2 from HDS-5 yields the relationship between head on the pipe and the resulting discharge for inlet control. From the chart, the pipe diameter necessary to carry the flow is 750 mm (30 in).

Using chart 6 from HDS-5 yields the relationship between head on the pipe and discharge for barrel control. From the chart, the pipe diameter necessary to carry the flow is 675 mm (30 in).

**10.8.5 Emergency Spillway**

The purpose of an emergency spillway is to provide a controlled overflow relief for storm flows in excess of the design discharge for the storage facility. An inlet control structure is commonly used to release emergency flows. Another suitable emergency spillway for detention storage facilities for highway applications is a broad-crested overflow weir cut through the original ground next to the embankment. The transverse cross-section of the weir cut is typically trapezoidal in shape for ease of construction. Such an excavated emergency spillway is illustrated in Figure 10-16. The invert of the spillway at the outfall should be at an elevation 0.3 m (1 ft) to 0.6 m (2 ft) above the maximum design storage elevation. It is preferable to have a freeboard of 0.6 m (2 ft) minimum. However, for very small impoundments (less than 0.4 to 0.8 hectare surface area) an absolute minimum of 0.3 meter of freeboard may be acceptable.

Equation 10.26 presents a relationship for computing the flow through a broad-crested emergency spillway. The dimensional terms in the equation are illustrated in Figure 10-16.

$$Q = C_{SP} b H_p^{1.5} \quad (10.26)$$

where:  $Q$  = emergency spillway discharge,  $m^3/s$  ( $ft^3/s$ )  
 $C_{SP}$  = discharge coefficient  
 $b$  = width of the emergency spillway, m (ft)  
 $H_p$  = effective head on the emergency spillway, m (ft)

The discharge coefficient,  $C_{SP}$ , in equation 10.26 varies as a function of spillway bottom width and effective head. Figure 10-17 illustrates this relationship. Table 10-3 provides a tabulation of emergency spillway design parameters.

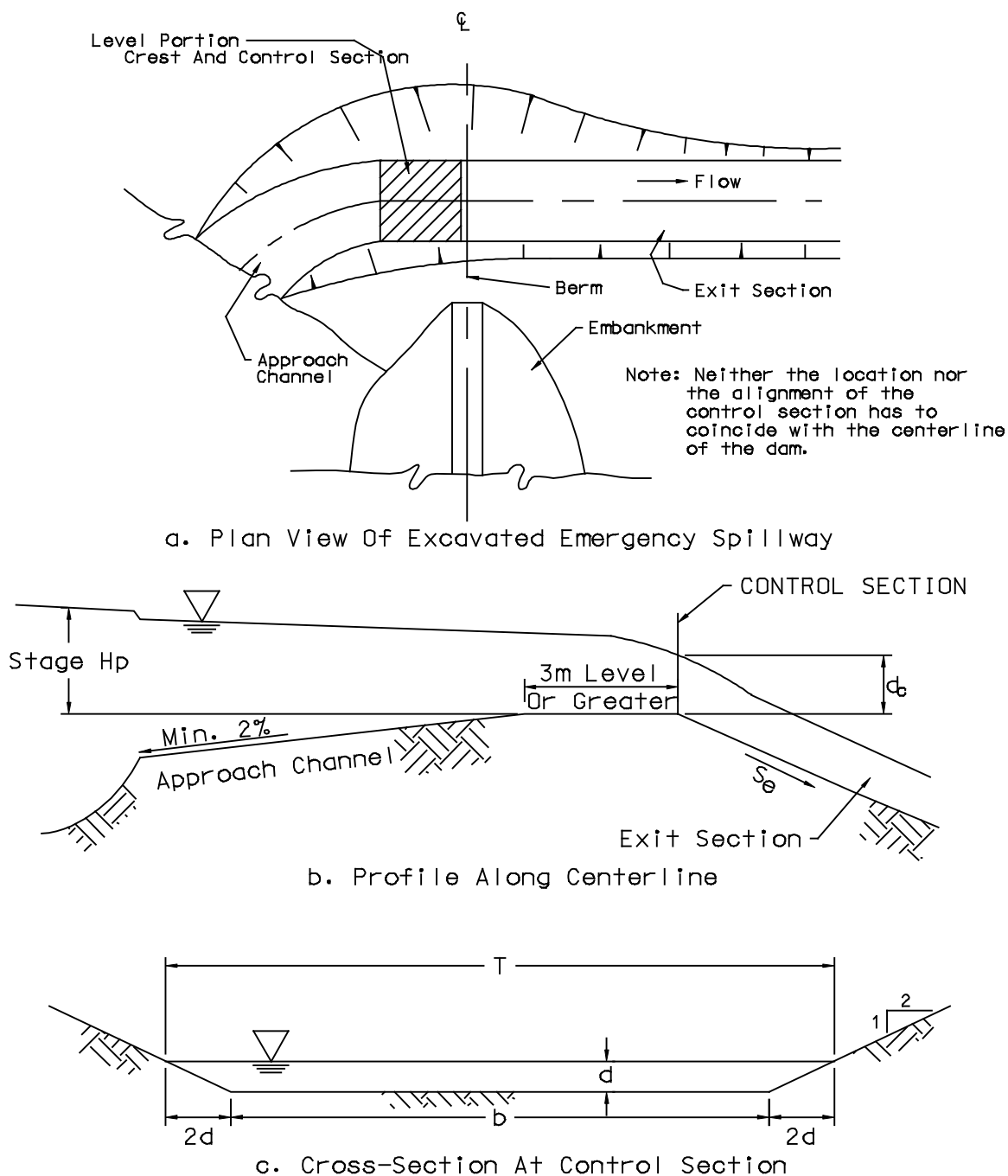
The critical slopes of Table 10-3 are based upon an assumed  $n = 0.040$  for turf cover of the spillway. For a paved spillway, the  $n$  should be assumed as 0.015. Equations 10.27 and 10.28 can be used to compute the critical velocity and slope for spillway materials having other roughness values.

$$V_c = K_{SP} \left( \frac{Q}{b} \right)^{0.33} \quad (10.27)$$

where:  $V_c$  = critical velocity at emergency spillway control section, m/s (ft/s)  
 $Q$  = emergency spillway discharge,  $m^3/s$  ( $ft^3/s$ )  
 $b$  = width of the emergency spillway, m (ft)  
 $K_{SP}$  = 2.14 (3.18 in English units)

$$S_c = K_{SP}' n^2 \left( \frac{V_c b}{Q} \right)^{0.33} \quad (10.28)$$

where:  $S_c$  = critical slope, m/m (ft/ft)  
 $n$  = Manning's coefficient  
 $V_c$  = critical velocity at emergency spillway control section, m/s (ft/s)  
 $Q$  = emergency spillway discharge,  $m^3/s$  ( $ft^3/s$ )  
 $b$  = width of the emergency spillway, m (ft)  
 $K_{SP}'$  = 9.84 (14.6 in English units)



**Figure 10-16 Emergency Spillway Design Schematic**

**Table 10-3 Emergency spillway design parameters (metric units)**

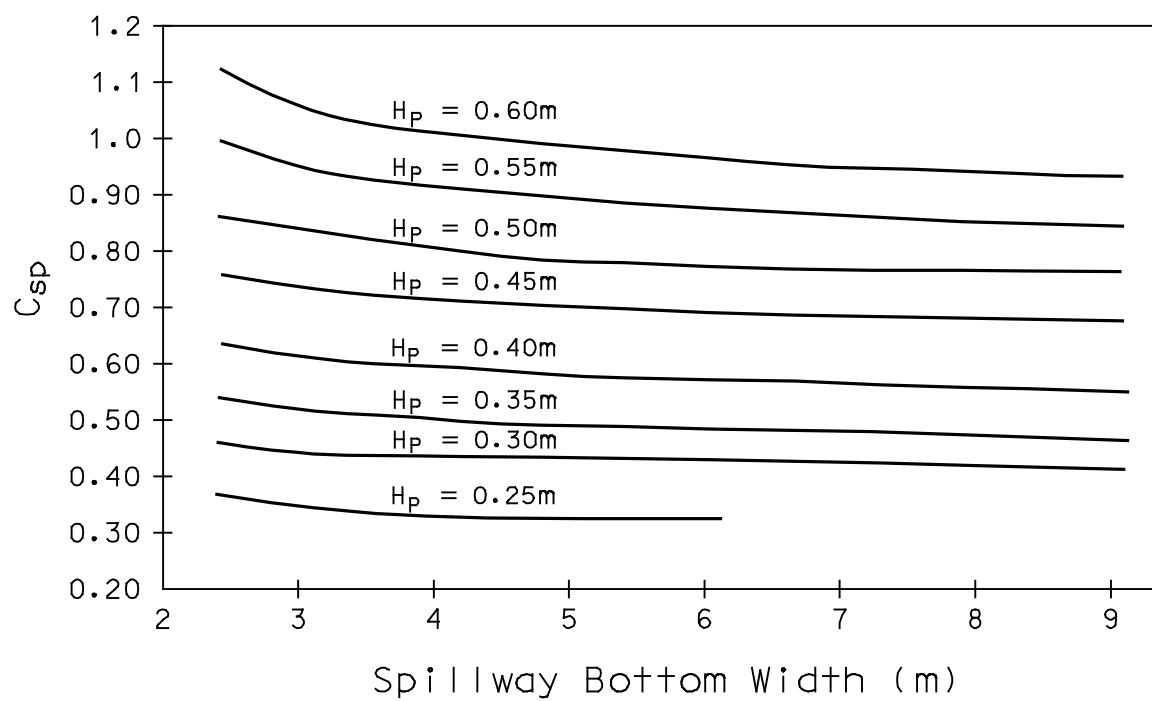
$H_p$ (m)		Spillway Bottom Width, b, meters														
		2.0	2.5	3.0	3.5	4.0	4.5	5.0	5.5	6.0	6.5	7.0	7.5	8.0	8.5	9.0
0.20	Q	0.19	0.26	0.35	0.40	0.44	0.50	0.58	0.65	0.69	0.73	-	-	-	-	-
	$V_c$	0.98	1.02	1.06	1.05	1.03	1.04	1.05	1.06	1.05	1.04	-	-	-	-	-
	$S_c$	3.4%	3.3%	3.2%	3.2%	3.3%	3.3%	3.2%	3.2%	3.2%	3.2%	-	-	-	-	-
0.25	Q	0.34	0.43	0.52	0.60	0.67	0.75	0.85	0.94	1.02	1.09	-	-	-	-	-
	$V_c$	1.19	1.20	1.20	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.20	1.19	1.19	-	-	-	-	-
	$S_c$	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	-	-	-	-	-
0.30	Q	0.53	0.63	0.72	0.83	0.95	1.06	1.18	1.29	1.41	1.52	1.64	1.75	1.87	1.96	2.07
	$V_c$	1.38	1.36	1.34	1.33	1.33	1.33	1.33	1.33	1.33	1.33	1.33	1.32	1.32	1.32	1.32
	$S_c$	2.7%	2.7%	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%
0.35	Q	0.68	0.82	0.95	1.10	1.24	1.37	1.51	1.66	1.81	1.94	2.08	2.21	2.34	2.49	2.62
	$V_c$	1.50	1.48	1.46	1.46	1.45	1.45	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.43	1.43	1.43	1.43	1.42
	$S_c$	2.5%	2.6%	2.6%	2.6%	2.6%	2.6%	2.6%	2.6%	2.6%	2.6%	2.6%	2.6%	2.6%	2.6%	2.6%
0.40	Q	0.86	1.04	1.20	1.38	1.55	1.72	1.89	2.07	2.25	2.42	2.58	2.74	2.90	3.09	3.27
	$V_c$	1.62	1.60	1.58	1.57	1.57	1.56	1.55	1.55	1.55	1.55	1.54	1.53	1.53	1.53	1.53
	$S_c$	2.4%	2.4%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%
0.45	Q	1.05	1.27	1.48	1.69	1.90	2.11	2.32	2.53	2.74	2.95	3.15	3.35	3.56	3.78	4.00
	$V_c$	1.73	1.71	1.70	1.68	1.67	1.67	1.66	1.66	1.65	1.65	1.64	1.64	1.64	1.64	1.64
	$S_c$	2.3%	2.3%	2.4%	2.4%	2.4%	2.4%	2.4%	2.4%	2.4%	2.4%	2.4%	2.4%	2.4%	2.4%	2.4%
0.50	Q	1.27	1.55	1.81	2.05	2.30	2.54	2.79	3.05	3.30	3.54	3.79	4.05	4.31	4.55	4.79
	$V_c$	1.84	1.83	1.81	1.79	1.78	1.77	1.77	1.76	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.74	1.74	1.74
	$S_c$	2.2%	2.2%	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%
0.55	Q	1.54	1.85	2.13	2.43	2.73	3.03	3.33	3.60	3.91	4.19	4.47	4.75	5.02	5.30	5.58
	$V_c$	1.96	1.94	1.91	1.90	1.89	1.88	1.87	1.86	1.86	1.85	1.85	1.84	1.84	1.83	1.83
	$S_c$	2.1%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%
0.60	Q	1.84	2.18	2.48	2.81	3.17	3.52	3.86	4.19	4.53	4.85	5.18	5.52	5.85	6.17	6.50
	$V_c$	2.08	2.05	2.01	1.99	1.98	1.97	1.96	1.96	1.95	1.94	1.94	1.93	1.93	1.93	1.92
	$S_c$	2.1%	2.1%	2.1%	2.1%	2.1%	2.1%	2.1%	2.1%	2.1%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%

NOTE: 1. For a given  $H_p$ , decreasing exit slope from  $S_c$  decreases spillway discharge, but increasing exit slope from  $S_c$  does not increase discharge.

2. If a slope  $S_e$  steeper than  $S_c$  is used, velocity  $V_e$  in the exit channel will increase according to the following relationship:

$$V_e = V_c (S_e/S_c)^{0.3}$$

3. One meter is 3.28 feet; one cubic meter is 35.28 cubic feet



**Figure 10-17 Discharge Coefficients for Emergency Spillways**

**Example 10-8**

**Given:** An emergency spillway with the following characteristics:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{invert elev.} &= 11.6 \text{ m (38.0 ft)} \\ \text{width (b)} &= 5 \text{ m (16.4 ft)} \\ \text{discharge coeff. (C}_{SP}\text{)} &= 1.5 \text{ (2.7) (assumed constant)} \end{aligned}$$

**Find:** The stage - discharge rating for the spillway up to an elevation of 12.0 m (39.4 ft).

**Solution:** Using equation 10.26 with the given parameters yields:

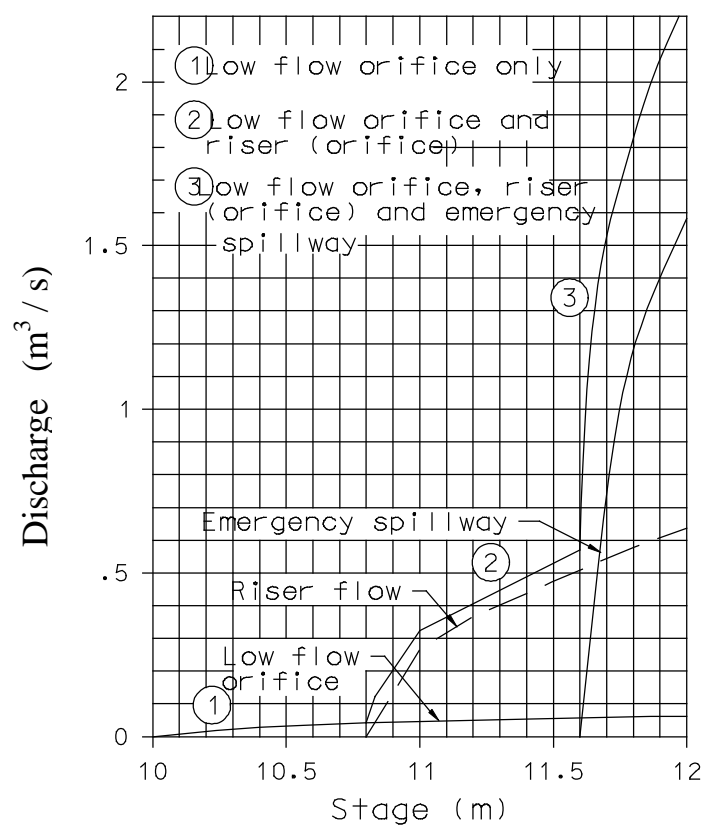
$$\begin{aligned} Q &= C_{SP} b H_p^{1.5} \\ Q &= (1.5)(5)H_p^{1.5} = 7.5 (H_p)^{1.5} \end{aligned}$$

STAGE		EFFECTIVE HEAD ON SPILLWAY		SPILLWAY DISCHARGE	
(m)	(ft)	(m)	(ft)	(m <sup>3</sup> /s)	(ft <sup>3</sup> /s)
11.6	38.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0
11.7	38.4	0.10	0.33	0.24	8.5
11.8	38.7	0.20	0.66	0.67	23.6
11.9	39.0	0.30	0.98	1.23	43.4
12.0	39.4	0.40	1.31	1.90	67.0

**10.8.6 Composite Stage Discharge Curves**

As indicated by the discussions in the preceding sections, development of a stage - discharge curve for a particular outlet control structure will depend on the interaction of the individual ratings for each component of the control structure. Figure 10-18 illustrates the construction of a stage - discharge curve for an outlet control device consisting of a low flow orifice and a riser pipe connected to an outflow pipe. The structure also includes an emergency spillway. These individual components are as described in examples 10-5, 10-6, and 10-8.

The impact of each element in the control structure can be seen in Figure 10-18. Initially, the low flow orifice controls the discharge. At an elevation of 10.8 m (35.4 ft) the water surface in the storage facility reaches the top of the riser pipe and begins to flow into the riser. The flow at this point is a combination of the flows through the orifice and the riser. As indicated in example 10-6, orifice flow through the riser controls the riser discharge above a stage of 11.0 m (36.1 ft). At an elevation of 11.6 meters (38.0 ft), flow begins to pass over the emergency spillway. Beyond this point, the total discharge from the facility is a summation of the flows through the low flow orifice, the riser pipe, and the emergency spillway. The data used to construct the curves in Figure 10-18 are tabulated in Table 10-4. Additionally, the designer needs to ensure that the outlet pipe from the detention basin is large enough to carry the total flows from the low orifice and the riser section. This ensures that the outlet pipe is not controlling the flow from the basin.



**Figure 10-18 Typical Combined Stage-Discharge Relationship**



**Table 10-4 Stage - discharge tabulation.**

STAGE		LOW FLOW ORIFICE	RISER ORIFICE FLOW	EMERGENCY SPILLWAY	TOTAL DISCHARGE	
(m)	(ft)	(m <sup>3</sup> /s)	(m <sup>3</sup> /s)	(m <sup>3</sup> /s)	(m <sup>3</sup> /s)	(ft <sup>3</sup> /s)
10.0	32.8	0.000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0
10.2	33.5	0.011	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.4
10.4	34.1	0.024	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.8
10.6	34.8	0.032	0.00	0.00	0.03	1.1
10.8	35.4	0.038	0.00	0.00	0.04	1.3
11.0	36.1	0.043	0.26	0.00	0.31	10.7
11.2	36.7	0.048	0.37	0.00	0.42	14.8
11.4	37.4	0.053	0.45	0.00	0.50	17.7
11.6	38.1	0.057	0.53	0.00	0.59	20.7
11.8	38.7	0.061	0.59	1.12	1.77	62.5
12	39.4	0.064	0.64	1.58	2.28	80.6